

Hospital Medicare reinspections by the Department of Health

HB 2054 by Park/C. Harris

- DIGEST:** HB 2054 would have permitted the Department of Health to reinspect a hospital in order to validate the results of a Medicare inspection, at the hospital's request. The bill also would have removed the current authority of the department to inspect a hospital to assure compliance with or to prevent a violation of the federal Hospital Survey and Construction Act.
- GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO:** "This bill addresses a legitimate concern. However, as a result of drafting shortcomings, the bill has a fatal flaw that removes the ability of the Department of Health to inspect hospitals other than when a disagreement has arisen concerning a Medicaid inspection. [The bill actually would have applied to Title 18 — *Medicare*.] The loss of the department's ability to inspect hospitals at other times is unacceptable."
- RESPONSE:** Rep. Carolyn Park, author of HB 2054, said: "I'm concurring with what the Department of Health wants to do about this bill. They wanted a veto, since the bill was not in keeping with their intent."
- NOTES:** HB 2054 passed the House on the Consent Calendar and was not analyzed in a *Daily Floor Report*.